



MANSFIELD ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN
Wednesday, October 5, 2016
Town Hall Council Chambers
DRAFT - MINUTES

Members Present: Maggie Ferron (staff), Danielle Annibalini (staff), Sarah Dufresne (staff), Pam Roberts, Lisa Dahn, Marianne Legassey, Jane Goldman, Barb Giardina, Sarah Woulfin, Heather Lasky, Judy Stoughton, Acey Neel, Miguel Colon, Rae (from Willow House), Dr. Sandra Hughes

Regrets: Rachel Leclerc, Pat Schneider

Guests: Kelly Lyman, Superintendent of Schools, Mike Limberg (UConn work/life)

WHAT	DISCUSSION	OUTCOME
CALL TO ORDER	Maggie Ferron called the meeting to order at 5:38pm.	
CONSENT AGENDA	Approval of the Minutes of September 7, 2016.	<i>The September 7, 2016 meeting minutes were approved.</i>
Staff Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food Quality and Sourcing Group. The working group is planning to apply for a State of CT Dep't of Agriculture grant (the Farm Viability grant) that would help get local food into the public schools. The due date for this grant is 11/14/16. They may still apply for the USDA grant, though this is a harder grant to write and there seems to be less chance of success. Playground: the surfacing has been fixed. We are working to purchase a musical instrument (an Amadinda from Sound Play http://www.soundplay.com/NEW_brochure.pdf). We need to remove the sand. Also, a donor board is finally in the works- we received a sample of butterflies that will be engraved with donors' names and posted. Discussion of the possibility of a tour of the school readiness programs. Will continue discussion via email- it would be great for the school readiness council to visit programs to monitor compliance, but MBF worries that it will be burdensome to programs. Windham school readiness council is having a book drive. Donations may be brought to Town Hall. 	
TOPICAL DISCUSSION: Results of	I. Healthy lifestyle choices. Whenever lifestyle or healthy eating was an option	

<p>Caretaker survey</p>	<p>in the survey it received a plurality of votes</p> <p>A. Programs?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Health info seminars 2. Recipe workshops 3. Outdoor family fun events 4. Bike swap/bike fun event <p>*Taylor, one of the YSB interns, has a connection with someone who provides bikes to low-income kids. Could perhaps collaborate on this event.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Mom n Baby exercise <p>*Jane Goldman suggested that one way to go about some of this programming would be to encourage caretakers and parents to start up activities on their own.</p> <p>*May also be able to hook up La Leche League to reach new parents.</p> <p>B. Policy advocacy</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Safe biking/walking routes <p>II. Social Opportunities. Parents indicated that they were interested in opportunities to network and socialize.</p> <p>A. Parent happy hour</p> <p>III. Other.</p> <p>A. Since drafting and publishing the survey, the topic of prevention has become very prominent. Most other towns have some sort of education happening in this area.</p> <p>B. The Downtown partnership's events were very popular.</p> <p>C. Commenters indicated that they</p>	
-------------------------	--	--

	<p>were interested in learning about safety and technology for kids, e.g. which apps pose risks. Sarah Dufresne suggested working with the computer class instructor at the senior center.</p> <p>D. A new residents guide would be helpful. Realtors might be willing to help distribute.</p> <p>IV. Themes.</p> <p>A. Survey indicates that we do not need to add to parents' schedules. I think it makes sense to join pre-existing events; e.g., have a family exercise program at a Family Fun Night at the MCC, have a literacy event at a library event (book sale?), include a MAC parent social activity with a school kids' function.</p> <p>V. Partners.</p> <p>A. UConn</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Community Outreach 2. Fraternities/Sororities <p>B. MPL- programs, facilities</p> <p>C. PTO/As</p> <p>D. TOM Public Works</p> <p>E. TOM Parks and Rec</p> <p>F. Joshua's Trust- outdoor activities</p> <p>G. Mansfield Senior Center</p> <p>VI. Further questions</p> <p>A. The number of kids in the care of relatives was higher than MBF had thought. Is MAC reaching these parents, who may not access information in the manner that parents with kids in school do?</p> <p>B. How do parents of under-3s and parents with no kids in school get</p>	
--	---	--

	their information?	
ADJOURN	<p>The meeting adjourned at 7:16 pm.</p> <p>Next Regular MAC Meeting, Wednesday, November 2, Mansfield Senior Center</p> <p>Respectfully submitted, Maggie Ferron, Early Childhood Services Coordinator</p>	

DRAFT